

Amendments to the Specification:

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Please insert the following paragraph at the beginning of the specification below the title:

REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to British application 0325161.8 filed October 28, 2003.

Please insert the following heading before paragraph 0001 beginning on page 1 of the published application:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following heading before paragraph 0002 beginning on page 1 of the published application:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following heading before paragraph 0008 beginning on page 1 of the published application:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following heading and paragraphs after paragraph 0011 on page 1 of the published application:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1: XRD pattern of composite following co-precipitation (Cu-K α radiation).

Figure 2: SEM micrograph of triple co-precipitate.

Figure 3: TEM micrograph of triple co-precipitate.

Figure 4: XRD pattern of composite following dehydrothermal treatment at 150°C and 50mTorr for 48 hours, indicating that the brushite phase has converted to its dehydrated form monetite.

Figure 5: set of combinations of ionic concentration and calcium nitrate: calcium hydroxide ratio for maintaining pH = 4.0.

Figure 6: Identification of conditions for pH 4.0 synthesis of a triple coprecipitate slurry containing a 1:1 mass ratio of calcium phosphate to collagen plus GAG.

Figure 7: x-ray diffraction pattern of collagen/GAG/brushite triple coprecipitate following removal of unbound water (Cu-K α radiation).

Figure 8: Secondary (SE) and backscattered electron (BSE) images of surface of triple coprecipitate with CaP: collagen + GAG = 1:1.

Figure 9: x-ray diffraction pattern of collagen/GAG/brushite triple coprecipitate following EDAC crosslinking (Cu-K α radiation).

Figure 10: x-ray diffraction pattern of EDAC-crosslinked collagen/GAG/CaP triple coprecipitate following conversion at 37°C to octacalcium phospahte (OCP) over 72 hours at pH 6.67, to form a collagen/GAG/OCP biocomposite (Cu-K α radiation).

Figure 11: set of combinations of ionic concentration and calcium nitrate: calcium hydroxide ratio for maintaining pH = 4.5.

Figure 12: identification of conditions for pH 4.5 synthesis of a triple coprecipitate slurry containing a 3: 1 mass ratio of calcium phosphate to collagen plus GAG.

Figure 13: x-ray diffraction pattern of the collagen/GAG/brushite triple coprecipitate following removal of unbound water (Cu-K α radiation).

Figure 14: x-ray diffraction pattern of collagen/GAG/brushite triple coprecipitate following EDAC crosslinking (Cu-K α radiation).

Figure 15: x- ray diffraction pattern of EDAC-crosslinked collagen/GAG/CaP triple coprecipitate following conversation at 37°C to apatite over 72 hours at pH 8.50, to form a collagen/GAG/apatite biocomposite (Cu-K α radiation).

Figure 16: x-ray diffraction pattern of EDAC-crosslinked collagen/GAG/Ap triple coprecipitates after secondary crosslinking via gamma irradiation.

Figure 17: XRD pattern of composite following triple coprecipitation and drying of Example 4.

Figure 18: SEM micrograph of the structure of co-precipitate granules following primary cross-linking of Example 4.

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Figure 19: XRD pattern illustrating the progression of hydrolysis to octacalcium phosphate in Example 4.

Figure 20: TEM image of a composite of Example 4.

Please insert the following heading before paragraph 0012 beginning on page 1 of the published application:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS